

THE UTILIZATION OF ERTS-1 GENERATED PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE EVALUATION OF
THE IRANIAN PLAYAS AS POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR ECONOMIC AND ENGINEERING
DEVELOPMENT

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Type I Progress Report for Period 1 March - 30 April 1973

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Type I Progress Report
ERTS-I

- a. Title: The Utilization of ERTS-I Generated Photographs in the Evaluation of the Iranian Playas as Potential Locations for Economic and Engineering Development

ERTS-I Proposal No.: SR 195

- b. GSFC 10 No. of P.I.: IN 037

- c. Problems encountered during this reporting period include:

1. The single remaining recorder aboard ERTS-1 was shut down due to malfunction, on 29 March 1973. Consequently, there will be no further images of Iran until a ground receiving station is built in that country.

The principal part of my ERTS-I experiment consisted of an examination of the Iranian Playas during the wet season (May), when the playas are flooded or saturated resulting in dynamic changes in the strength of playa soils and their utility for roads or airfields. I had intended to establish ground truth in Iran during May, but the absence of contemporaneous ERTS-1 images no longer justifies such fieldwork.

I will attempt to utilize some of the January-February ERTS-I coverage of some playas which are saturated by winter rainfall, and compare their conditions with the summer, dry conditions of these same playas.

- d. Accomplishments during the reporting period include:

1. Nine-inch ERTS-I film positives (cycle 3) were used in the preparation of black and white enlargements at scales of 1:500,000 and 1:250,000. Although the smaller scale print was more attractive; the larger scale was just as faithful in detail and permitted easier delineation of map areas within the playas.
2. Nine-inch ERTS-I film positives (cycle 3) were used in the preparation of false color diazo prints. Many film colors and exposure times were used in order to determine the best combination for examining the boundaries around areas of water, salt, clay and shoreline.

- e. There are no scientific results at this time.

- f. No papers have been published to date.

- g. There are ^{no} recommendations at this time.

- h. Changes (corrections) were made in the Standing Order Forms (6 March 1973).

- i. There are no ERTS Image Description forms completed at this time.
- j. No Data Request forms have been used during this reporting period.